

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

October 21, 2010

*WCB*  
*CenturyLink*  
*Qwest*  
*11707*

The Honorable Julius Genachowski  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

As you know, CenturyLink and Qwest Communications filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on May 10, 2010 for approval of their proposed merger. It has already received approval from the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission. We are writing to encourage expeditious consideration of the application by the FCC.

CenturyLink is an important part of the North Carolina economy, serving thousands of homes and businesses, and investing hundreds of millions of dollars in its network. In fact, in our state alone, CenturyLink directly employs nearly 2,300 people and has an annual payroll of \$160 million. There are also countless companies that support CenturyLink as suppliers, technicians, and customer service representatives. The ancillary employers stand to see a marked increase in their businesses and will likely employ new individuals to compensate for the additional workload.

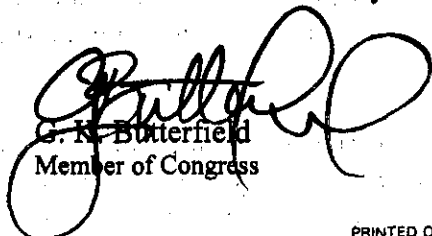
We believe the CenturyLink-Qwest merger will benefit consumers in our state and across the nation by enhancing the new company's ability to invest in broadband infrastructure. Continued investment in broadband networks will enhance the economic competitiveness of each community served. Over 90 percent of CenturyLink's network is broadband-enabled which is helping to close the digital divide in underserved regions of our state.

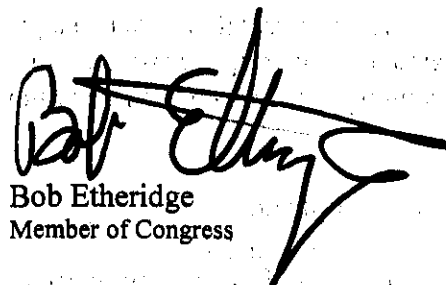
We greatly appreciate your consideration of our comments and look forward to you conducting a thoughtful and timely review.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

  
G. K. Butterfield  
Member of Congress

  
Bob Etheridge  
Member of Congress

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

28 OCT 2010 RCUD



OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

November 16, 2010

The Honorable George K. Butterfield  
U.S. House of Representatives  
413 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Butterfield:

Thank you for your letter supporting the proposed transfer of control between CenturyLink and Qwest. I value your perspective on the potential benefits of this transaction and I appreciate your interest in this matter.

Many of the issues associated with this transaction – investment in broadband infrastructure, extending broadband to rural areas, and job creation – are among my highest priorities as Chairman. The Commission takes seriously its evaluation of transfer of control applications and you can be assured that it will consider these issues as part of its careful and deliberate review of this proposed transfer.

Your letter will be included in the record of this proceeding. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "J. Genachowski", is written over the printed name.

Julius Genachowski



OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

November 16, 2010

The Honorable Bob Etheridge  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1533 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Etheridge:

Thank you for your letter supporting the proposed transfer of control between CenturyLink and Qwest. I value your perspective on the potential benefits of this transaction and I appreciate your interest in this matter.

Many of the issues associated with this transaction – investment in broadband infrastructure, extending broadband to rural areas, and job creation – are among my highest priorities as Chairman. The Commission takes seriously its evaluation of transfer of control applications; and you can be assured that it will consider these issues as part of its careful and deliberate review of this proposed transfer.

Your letter will be included in the record of this proceeding. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Genachowski", is written over the printed name.

Julius Genachowski